

Message Text

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17

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DRAFTED BY EUR/WE:KSHIRLEY/LD

APPROVED BY S/S:MR. LUERS

EUR:WELLS STABLER

WHITE HOUSE - MR. CLIFT

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R 292212Z OCT 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

UNCLAS STATE 237491

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, NL

SUBJECT: LETTER TO AMBASSADOR VAN ROIJEN

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO AMBASSADOR HERMAN VAN ROIJEN AT THE CARNEGIE FOUNDATION: QTE DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR: THANK YOU FOR YOUR THOUGHTFUL MESSAGE ON MY ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. PLEASE BE ASSURED OF MY FULL COMMITMENT TO THE QUEST FOR WORLD PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND TO CONTINUED FRIENDSHIP AND CLOSE TIES BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. SINCERELY, GERALD R. FORD. END QTE.

2. FYI - VAN ROIJEN SENT FOLLOWING LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT: QTE DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: ANNE AND I SEND YOU AND THE FIRST LADY OUR VERY WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS AND OUR SINCERE GOOD WISHES FOR THE SUCCESS OF YOUR PRESIDENCY WHICH, IN OUR ESTIMATION IS NOT SUBJECT TO DOUBT. YOUR SUCCEEDING TO THE HIGHEST OFFICE IN THE UNITED STATES HAS, IF POSSIBLE, CONFIRMED AND FURTHER INCREASED OUR CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE OF THE COUNTRY WHICH WE HAVE ALWAYS SO DEEPLY ADMIRERD AND HELD DEAR, SECOND ONLY TO OUR OWN. MR. PRESIDENT, WE FEEL THAT NOT ONLY YOUR

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COUNTRY, BUT EUROPE AS WELL IS TO BE HEARTILY

CONGRATULATED ON YOUR HAVING ASSUMED OFFICE. ANNE AND I
ARE HAPPY TO HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY ON OUR LAST VISIT
TO THE UNITED STATES, OF MEETING YOU AND YOUR WIFE AGAIN
AT THE DINNER AT THE NETHERLANDS EMBASSY ON THE EVE OF
YOUR NOMINATION TO THE VICE PRESIDENCY IN OCTOBER OF LAST
YEAR. WE WERE ESPECIALLY GLAD ON THAT OCCASION TO BE
ABLE TO RENEW THE BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP DATING BACK TO OUR
FIRST MEETING AT THE ANNUAL FESTIVITIES IN HOLLAND,
MICHIGAN. WITH REPEATED GOOD WISHES ALSO FOR YOUR
PERSONAL HEALTH AND HAPPINESS, SINCERELY YOURS, HERMAN
VAN ROIJEN. END QTE

3. WHITE HOUSE HAS NO PLANS TO RELEASE TEXT OF REPLY
BUT HAS NO OBJECTION SHOULD RECIPIENT WISH TO DO SO.
INGERSOLL

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